ENHANCEMENTS TO THE FY12 BUDGET PROCESS

In the year Two Thousand Eleven…………………………………………………………..
Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

WHEREAS, the City Council engaged George Cross to review and offer insight into the Annual Budget for FY11; and

WHEREAS, after attending 14 budget hearing and various others meetings including hours reviewing the budget, Mr. Cross has given this Council several specific recommendations going forward to improve the budget process, the format of the budget and our IT challenges; and

WHEREAS, there are also valid and important recommendations put forth by past Budget Task Forces for FY07, FY08 and FY09, some of which have been acted upon and others that have not; and

WHEREAS, the events of the past few years concerning Enterprise Funds (ie financial oversight, credit ratings, internal controls among others) as well as interest in the Annual Single Audit, Management Letter and the entire budget process have brought to light other recommendations,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council requests the following:

1. Beginning with the FY12 budget, all Enterprise Funds that are reviewed and approved by the City Council will be presented in a monthly budget format just as a private for-profit business is managed. Both Burlington Telecom and the Airport are not monopolies and therefore are in competitive industries. Their budgets need to be constructed and monitored with budget vs actual on a monthly basis.

2. Beginning with the FY12 budget process, all departments will present their budget in the same format meaning each budget will follow the same presentation so it will be relatively easy to follow each department. The reason for this is to have some standardization among departments making the process more understandable for the citizen as well as the Council.

3. Beginning with the FY12 budget process, all departments will report in their budget their pro-rata share of the City's FICA, retirement fund contributions, health benefits and any other costs that are currently not accounted for in each department but are personnel related and should be included with each department so as to give the reader a full picture of the expenditures of each of department.

4. Beginning with the FY12 budget, all object codes will be cross-referenced, for example, all postage costs across departments (object code 70400) will be listed under a separate tab so one can easily see what the totals are for each cost category so the reader can easily see where their tax dollars are going by category.